

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

INFO AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 065972

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:EMIN, PFOR, MASS, CG, US, AO, CH, XF

SUBJECT:TEMPLESMAN MEETING WITH MOBUTU

REF: KINSHASA 2592 (NOTAL)

1. MAURICE TEMPLESMAN HAS BRIEFED DEPARTMENT ON HOUR-LONG MEETING WITH MOBUTU IN KINSHASA WHICH TOOK PLACE MARCH 23 BEFORE AMBASSADOR VANCE'S CALL ON PRESIDENT LATER SAME DAY. SUBJECTS INCLUDED ARMS SUPPLY, ANGOLA, SMTF PROJECT, AND MOBUTU'S RECENT MIDDLE EAST TRIP. WHILE AWAITING INTERVIEW, TEMPLESMAN OBSERVED ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF CHINESE DOCTOR, ACCOMPANIED BY CHINESE EMBOFF, WHO GAVE MOBUTU 45-MINUTE ACUPUNCTURE TREATMENT.

2. ARMS SUPPLY. DISCUSSION THIS SUBJECT CONSUMED MOST OF THE HOUR AND PROCEEDED ALONG LINES OF SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION OF SUBJECT WITH AMBASSADOR VANCE(REFTEL). ONE SPECIFIC ITEM MENTIONED IN PASSING TO TEMPLESMAN BUT NOT TO AMBASSADOR WAS RIVER PATROL BOATS. AMBASSADOR SUGGESTS ZAMISH MIGHT EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF ZAIRIAN INTEREST IN
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ADDITIONAL SWIFT BOATS. MOBUTU DISCUSSED CHINESE IN TERMS

SIMILAR TO THOSE REPORTED REFTEL AND INDICATED ZAIRIAN
MILITARY PROCUREMENT MISSION TO CHINA IN THE OFFING.

3. ANGOLA. MOBUTU LAMENTED US FAILURE TO PROVIDE
FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO HOLDEN ROBERTO, WHO HE SAID MAY BE
PRESIDENT OF ANGOLA ONE DAY, IS PRO-WESTERN, BUT MUST

SCRAPE ALONG ON A 240,000-ZAIRE-A-YEAR BUDGET AND HAS
BEEN FORCED TO GO TO THE CHINESE FOR ARMS.

4. SMTF. MOBUTU EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH PROJECT,
REITERATED REQUIREMENT THAT REFINING BE DONE IN ZAIRE.
HE SWEEP ASIDE GENERAL COMMENT BY TEMPLESMAN ABOUT POSSIBLE
NEED FOR POLITICAL RISKS LOAN GUARANTEE WITH BRISK
COMMENT, "MY WORD IS MY BOND." TEMPLESMAN BELIEVES
QUESTION CAN BE BEST TREATED AT WORKING LEVEL.

5. MIDDLE EAST TRIP. MOBUTU SAID THE ARABS HAD
DISAPPOINTED HIM, HAD FAILED TO COME THROUGH (NO
SPECIFICS). SAID HE LIKED SADAT. RUSH

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